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Cybersecurity for Infrastructure

Center for Buildings, Infrastructure and Public Space

Shamir G. Pérez Sarraff Lizzie Song Dante Wu Qiong Wu

INTRODUCTION:

Critical infrastructure systems support the nation's economy, society and security but they are susceptible to cyber attacks. Advances in networking, computing, sensing and control systems have enabled a broad range of new devices. However, security often is left for later. Cybersecurity is the protection of internet-connected systems, including hardware, software and data, from cyberattacks. The industry needs enhanced awareness of potential cyber attacks and the ability to design in flexibility and resilience to mitigate the effects of such attacks in the critical manufacturing, dams, energy, transportation, water and wastewater system, nuclear reactors, materials and waste, and other sectors.

CRITICAL PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECTORS:



Critical Manufacturing Unauthorized intrusion into control systems and data acquisition systems could disrupt supply chain



Energy Unstable energy supply or even blackout could cause public panic and cease many economic activities and across multiple sectors



Water and Wastewater Systems Attacks could be large numbers of illnesses or casualties and/or a denial of service that

casualties and/or a denial of service that would also impact public health and economic vitality movements of passengers and assets in the use of aviation, ships, rail, pipelines, highways, trucks and buses

Transportation

Dams

control

The cyber risks challenge

systems of water storage,

Disruption on traffic control

system would interrupt

outdated dam control

irrigation, electricity

generation and flood

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Cyberattacks on nuclear power plants and isotopes used for medical procedures allow malicious actors to manipulate or

exploit facility operations

Image Source: U.S. DHS Critical Infrastructure Sectors: https://www.dhs.gov/cisg/critical-infrastructure-sectors

RISKS IN DIFFERENT PHASES:

Design

- Exposing business plans and acquisition strategies
- Ransomware attack and computer crashing may destroy information then cause productivity loss and business delay

Construction

- Customer, contractor, and supplier lists and pricing disclosing
- Construction plans leak

Operation

- Revealing personally identifiable information of employees
- Property damage and personal injury due to cybersecurity incidents

NIST FRAMEWORK:



2. Framework Implementation Tiers



3. Framework Profiles

Profiles are an organization's unique alignment of requirements and objectives, risk appetite, and resources against the desired outcomes of the Framework Core. Profiles can be used to identify opportunities for improving cybersecurity posture by comparing a "Current" Profile with a "Target" Profile. Below is an example:

Priority	Gaps	Budget	Activities (Year 1)	Activities (Year 2)
Moderate	Small	\$\$\$		х
High	Large	\$\$	х	
Moderate	Medium	\$	х	
Moderate	None	\$\$		Reassess
	Priority Moderate High Moderate Moderate	Priority Gaps Moderate Small High Large Moderate Medium Moderate None	Priority Gaps Budget Moderate Small \$\$\$ High Large \$\$ Moderate Medium \$ Moderate None \$\$	Priority Gaps Budget Activities (Year 1) Moderate Small SSS High Large SS X Moderate Medium S X Moderate None SS

Target Profile

An Introduction to the Components of the Framework. Retrieved from NIST May 1st 2019





10 Domains:

Risk Management, Asset, Change, and Configuration Management, Identity and Access Management, Threat and Vulnerability Management, Situational Awareness, Information Sharing and Communications, Event and Incident Response, Continuity of Operations, Supply Chain and External Dependencies Management, Workforce Management, Cybersecurity Program Management

Recommended Process for Using Evaluation Results:

	Inp	outs 🗪	Act	tivities 🗾	Outputs
Perform Evaluation	1. 2. 3.	C2M2 Self-Evaluation Policies and procedures Understanding of cybersecurity program	1.	Conduct C2M2 Self-Evaluation Workshop with appropriate attendees	C2M2 Self- Evaluation Report
Analyze Identified Gaps	1. 2. 3.	C2M2 Self-Evaluation Report Organizational objectives Impact to critical infrastructure	1. 2. 3.	Analyze gaps in organization's context Evaluate potential consequences from gaps Determine which gaps need attention	List of gaps and potential consequences
Prioritize and Plan	1. 2.	List of gaps and potential consequences Organizational constraints	1. 2. 3. 4.	Identify actions to address gaps Cost-benefit analysis (CBA) on actions Prioritize actions (CBA and consequences) Plan to implement prioritize actions	Prioritized implementation plan
Implement Plans	1.	Prioritized implementation plan	1. 2.	Track progress to plan Reevaluate periodically or in response to major change	Project tracking data

CYBERSECURITY CAPABILITY MATURITY MODEL (C2M2), Version 1-1, Feb 2014

CONCLUSION:

Cyberspace and its underlying infrastructure are vulnerable to a wide range of cyber risks. Protecting the cybersecurity of our critical infrastructure is a top priority for the nation. The NIST Framework is a strategic guidance for critical infrastructure sectors and organizations to reduce and manage their cyber risks regardless of their sizes or cybersecurity sophistication. Additionally, the industry should put efforts into aligning critical infrastructure owners and operators with existing resources to assist in using the Framework to manage their cyber risks.

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